

Jordan E. Tannenbaum
Vice Chairman

Reid J. Nelson
Executive Director, Acting



August 10, 2021

The Honorable Joseph Manchin III, Chairman
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John A. Barrasso, Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Manchin and Ranking Member Barrasso:

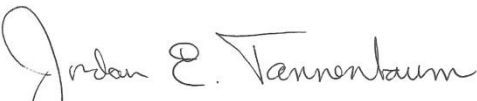
Acting as chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) during that position's current vacancy, I am writing to express the ACHP's support for the Amache National Historic Site Act (S. 1284/H.R. 2497), which recently was passed by the House of Representatives with overwhelming support. Established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the ACHP is the independent federal agency charged with advising the President and Congress on matters relating to historic preservation.

The bill would establish Colorado's Granada Relocation Center as part of the National Park System. Commonly known as Amache, this World War II-era incarceration facility housed more than 7,000 people of Japanese descent, most of them Japanese American citizens, who were forcibly imprisoned there from 1942-1945. The site was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 2006. In 2019, Congress directed the Department of the Interior to conduct a Special Resource Study to determine the feasibility of adding the site to the National Park System because of its national importance.

Amache represents a chapter of American history that is not pleasant to contemplate, but which must never be forgotten. Its establishment as a National Historic Site will help to ensure local efforts to preserve the site and tell its story are continued and amplified. Passage of the bill in this Congress also would be particularly timely, given recent anti-Asian violence in America.

Please feel free to contact me if the ACHP can be of any assistance during further consideration of the Amache National Historic Site Act, or your staff may wish to follow up with acting ACHP Executive Director Reid Nelson at nelson@achp.gov. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Jordan E. Tannenbaum
Vice Chairman